MINOR SCALES - 2

2. The Minor Seven scale (sometimes called a DORIAN scale)
Used for minor chords that occur within a MAJOR key.

There are two ways to remember the formation of a minor seven scale.

a. One way is to imagine a MAJOR scale with the 3rd and 7th FLATTENED

For instance C major scale is C D E F G A B C
C minor7 scale is C D Eb F G A Bb C
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

b. The other way is to remember that a MINOR SEVEN scale is a RELATION of the MAJOR scale TWO TONES TO THE LEFT

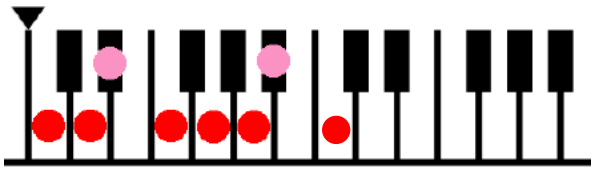
So if you wanted the notes for Cminor 7 scale - look two notes left of C which is Bb and use the same notes of the Bb major scale but start on C and end on C

Bb major scale is Bb C D Eb F G A Bb
C minor7 scale is C D Eb F G A Bb C

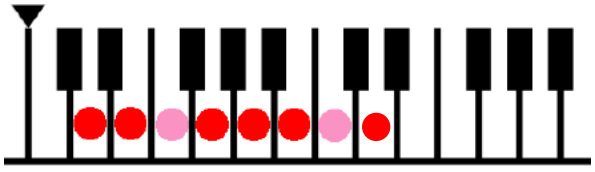
The easiest Minor7 scale is the Dm7 scale because it's relative is C major (all the white keys). So if you play all the white keys from one D up to another D you have played the scale of D minor7 (D Dorian).

Try the following examples.

Cm7 scale (relative Bb maj)



Dm7 scale (relative C maj)



Fm7 scale (relative Eb maj)

Gm7 scale (relative F maj)